

Middleton

Transcript.

VOL. VII.

MIDDLETON, NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE, SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 11, 1874.

NO. 15.

Select Poetry.

SPRING CLEANING.

The melancholy days have come—the saddest of the year—
Of cleaning paint, and scrubbing floors, and
Scouring far and near.
Heard in the corner of the room the ancient
Dirt lay quiet; nor at the father's tread, nor to the
children's riot;
But now the carpets all are up, and from the
staircase top
The mistress calls to man and maid to wield the
broom and mop.

Where are those rooms, those quiet rooms the
house but now presented,
Where we dwelt, nor dreamed of dirt, so cosy
and contented!
Alas! they've turned all upside down, that quiet
suite of rooms—
With slops, and odds, and soap, and sand,
And torn gaiters and brooms.

Chairs, tables, stands, are standing round at
sixes and sevens,

While wife and housemaids fly about like
meteors through the heavens.

The parlor and the chamber floors were cleaned
a week ago;

The carpets shone, the windows washed—as all the
neighbors know;

But still the sanctum had escaped—the table
piled with books,

Pens, ink and paper all about, peace in its very
looks—

Till fell the women on them all, as falls the
plague upon men;

And then they banished all away, books, papers,
ink and pen.

And now when comes the master home—as com-
be most of nights—

To find all things are "set to rights" that they
have "set to rights,"

What's the noise of driving tacks is heard, tho'
the house is far from still;

And the carpet-woman's on the stairs, that har-
binger of ill;

He looks, for papers, books or bills, that all were
there before,

And signs to find them on the desk or in the
paper more.

And then he grimly thinks of her who set this
fuss afloat;

And wishes she were out at sea in a very leaky
boat;

He meets her at the parlor door with hair and
cap awry,

With sleeves turned up and broom in hand, de-
fiance in her eye,

He says, "I know you and know full well there's
nothing to be said;

So holds his tongue, and drinks his tea, and
sneaks away to bed.

THE GENIUS OF THE ROADSIDE.

It is marvellous that a boy's fortune
should turn upon a horse shoe, and yet
for many of us, some of the greatest events
of our lives, have turned upon as small a
pivot. Even in the humblest lives, little
opportunities lie concealed all along the
way like fairy doors which, when the right
spring is touched, will fly open, revealing
a most glorious future.

In after years the artist returned to
America, and was commissioned by Con-
gress to paint one of the panels of the
Capitol at Washington, one of the high-
est honors his country could bestow upon
him. He excelled here one of his most
famous pieces, his well-known "Landing
of Columbus." He also painted portraits
of Aaron Burr and his daughter. He died
a few years ago at Kingston, not far from
the spot where he drew the charcoal sketch
which decided his fortune.

As for Aaron Burr, the way of the
good summer day, a distinguished looking
gentleman might have been seen
riding in his carriage along a country
road in Ulster County, New York. His
name was Aaron Burr; not the despised
and hunted Aaron Burr we read of now; he
was then Senator Burr, one of the most
talented and highly esteemed men in our
country. He was not an evil-looking
man; on the contrary, he was a kindly
face, lit up with brilliant black eyes.

But, about the horse-shoes; As he was
driving rapidly along, one of his horses
lost a shoe and he stopped at the next
blacksmith shop to have it replaced. It
was a lonely country place, and while the
blacksmith was at work, Burr strolled
through the woods and fields that lay a-
round. Returning, he noticed upon the
side of a stable, near the blacksmith's
shop, a sketch in charcoal of his own car-
riage and horses. He was startled at first,
it was so perfectly accurate and spirit-
ed. He knew, too, that it must have been
executed in a very few minutes, and he
stood for some time gazing at it in admira-
tion. Turning around, at length, he
noticed a boy a little way off dressed in
coarse homespun.

"Who did that?" said Burr, pointing
at the picture.
"I did it," said the boy.

The Senator was astonished. Entering
into conversation, he discovered that the
boy, though ignorant, was intellectual.
He also found that this young artist had
never had any instructions in drawing,
and that he was apprenticed to the black-
smith for six months.

Burr wrote a few lines on a piece of pa-
per; and said as he wrote:

"My boy you are too smart a fellow to
stay here all your life. If ever you should
want to change your employment and see
the world, just put a clean shirt in your
pocket, go to New York and go straight
to that address!" handing the boy the
paper.

A child's intuitions are quick, and as
the boy gazed into the kindly face bent
down to him, he felt that he had won a
friend he could love and trust.

The traveller's horses now being ready
he mounted his carriage and was out of
sight in a moment, while the bewildered
boy returned to his work in the black-
smith's shop. He treasured the precious
bit of paper though, and many a day as
he worked the blacksmith's bellows that
fanned the glowing embers, he built gold-
en dream castles, while brave, ambitious
thoughts leaped up in his heart as the
flames leaped up from the vivid coals.

Months passed away and these circum-
stances had nearly faded away from the
busy Senator's mind. In his beautiful
home at Richmond Hill, he was sitting
at breakfast one morning with his daughter
Theodosia. It was upon this daughter
Theodosia, so lovely, so pure, so gentle,
that Aaron Burr lavished the wealth of
a soul overflowing with secret tenderness.
Long after his fall from power, she, it is

said, was the solitary star shining with
beautiful lustre over the rough and dark-
ened pathway of his life.

It was on this memorable morning that
a servant entered the breakfast-room, and
placed in Colonel Burr's hand a small pa-
per parcel, saying it was brought by a
boy who was waiting outside. Theodosia
gazed on wonderingly as her father opened
the parcel and found "a coarse country-
made, clean shirt." Of course, they both
laughed merrily over it, and Burr, sup-
posing it to be some mistake, ordered the
boy to be shown in.

Who should enter then but our genius
of the roadside, blushing in confusion
By the elegance of the room, and the
presence of the beautiful daughter, he was
still more abashed, but the face of his
friend reassured him. Very modestly,
he placed in his hand a piece of worn
paper, the one he had treasured for so
many months. As Burr traced the almost
illegible words he recognized his
own handwriting, and a new light flashed
over his face. Taking the child's trem-
bling hand in his own, he gave him such a
welcome as only warm, generous hearts
know how to give. Then presenting the
boy to his daughter, he told her his story.
Theodosia gave him her hand at once, for
she was as much pleased with him as was
her father.

From that hour, the boy was loved and
cared for as one of the family. He was
educated and placed under the best of
masters in the art he had shown such a
talent for. Nor was this enough; Vander-
lyn, for that was the boy's name, was
afterwards sent to Europe by Burr, where
he spent five years in the study of paint-
ing, until he became, it is said, an artist
worthy of the name.

Years and years afterwards, when Burr
was wandering in Europe a poor and
lonely exile, Vanderlyn was exhibiting
pictures at the Louvre, Paris. He had
not only been presented with a gold medal
by Napoleon, but was receiving comple-
ments and congratulations from the Em-
peror's own lips. His cup of joy seemed
almost full. It was then that he heard
that his benefactor was in Paris, and he
hastened to give him as warm a welcome
as he himself had received one winter's
morning so long ago. I wish I could tell
about the meeting of those two; the
poor, old man, bowed down with disgrace,
and the grateful, and now famous young
artist whom he himself had uplifted from
a blacksmith's little drudge at the road-
side. We only know that it must have been
the most joyful and most sorrowful. We
also know that Vanderlyn gave his old
friend all the help he could.

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South Carolina Snubbed.

The Insult to the Delegates from the Palmetto State at the White House—Address of Mr. Porter.

Mr. PORTER.—We are delegates from the Tax-payers' Convention of South Carolina, and are charged with a mission to the authorities at Washington to lay before them a great public grievance under which our people are laboring, and to invoke the sympathy and aid of the Federal Government to afford us the relief which we have not been able to procure for ourselves. We know the power, moral and political, of the Government, and believe that it can, if it will, redress our grievance. It is difficult in the few minutes that we feel at liberty to trespass upon your time to make an adequate presentation of the pitiable condition in which South Carolina is placed. To give you any conception of it is necessary to state her condition at the close of the war. No one knows better than yourself, Mr. President, the exhaustive processes of the war upon our State. Her people, with a sincere belief that the enterprise in which they embarked involved their domestic peace and safety, and with an unceasing devotion to their cause, staked their all upon the issue; and lost them all. The single act of emancipation struck out of existence \$125,000,000 of their property value. Their money, their bills, their securities, State and Federal, perished on their hands. They had lands, without labor or money to hire labor; they had houses or cabins, but without provisions to satisfy the hungry cravings of men, women, and children. If ever there was a people upon whom the hand of taxation should have been laid lightly and gently, it was the people of South Carolina at the end of the war. If ever there was a people whose condition was a protest and remonstrance against the heartless and grinding exactions of the tax-gatherer, it was that stricken people. The reconstruction measures placed South Carolina in an anomalous position. It doubted her citizenship and her suffrage. We are not here to ask any change or modification in this respect. We know that this matter has been placed upon the basis of the fundamental law by constitutional amendments, and that, whether wise or unwise, we can expect no alteration of it. But there are some incidents and results growing out of the reconstruction policy which are curious as well as vital in their operation, and to the practical effects of which we invite your attention, with a view to some relief. This doubling of our citizenship and suffrage has divided the State into two classes, or strata, the one property-holding and tax-paying, and the other non-tax-paying and non-property-holding. And in the non-property-holding and non-tax-paying class resides the absolute political power of the State, including the great sovereign power of taxation; and this is banded together as a fixed political majority which refuses any substantial representation to the tax-paying minority. The practical result is this: that the people who levy the taxes do not pay the taxes; those who pay the taxes have no voice in fixing the amount of them; and the taxes so raised are expended, not by those who pay them, but by those who really feel no part of the burden of them. We doubt whether such a condition of things has ever before existed in any government which called itself a free representative government. With our knowledge of the entire American feeling on the subject of taxation and its exercise, we think it may be truly said that no free State of the North would submit to such a condition of things either theoretically or practically—for the practical results are precisely such as might have been anticipated. Those who do not pay the taxes care not how heavily they lay them on, and the more heavily they lay them on, the more heavily they lay them on the mere money they have to expend. In point of fact there is no check, no limitation, no responsibility such as exists where an accountable to a tax-paying constituency. Allow us, Mr. President, to group a few facts which will serve to give some idea of the condition in which we are placed. Our taxable values before the war were near \$500,000,000; they are now reduced to \$150,000,000 or \$160,000,000. Upon that \$500,000,000 before the war was raised, for the ordinary current expenses of government, the sum of about \$400,000; but upon the reduced values of \$160,000,000 there is now raised the annual sum of over \$2,000,000. Considering the loss and depreciation of property, the reduced ability of the people to pay, and the false and exaggerated assessments made, the proportion between the tax now raised and that raised before the war would be as fifteen or twenty to one. When the impoverished condition of the mass of the people is taken into consideration, with what a fearful weight of oppression do these burdens fall upon them. It is no wonder, then, that in one year 268,000 acres of land were forfeited to the State for non-payment of taxes, and that in the single county of Beaufort some 800 out of the 2,500 farms sold by the United States to the colored people have also been forfeited for the same cause. So, too, the funded debt of the State has been increased from about \$6,000,000 to an admitted figure of \$16,000,000, with an undefined margin of floating debt and unacknowledged bonds. To state the case in a few words, it may be said that our present rulers have already utterly destroyed the credit of the State by the excessive issue of bonds, partly legitimate and partly fraudulent, and are now en-

gaged in devouring the substance of the people by the grinding exactions of taxation. Mr. President, this is no false clamor or picture of the imagination. It is real, hard, stubborn fact, and is acknowledged or can be proved. Strangers from the North express their amazement at what they see, and wonder at the forbearance that has so long endured. No man who has come to see for himself with an open, dispassionate mind has come to any other conclusion than that there should and must be a radical reform. Our own people are almost in despair, for they feel that they are upon the very verge of a general ruin. If we could lay before you the many, many instances of distress that have come before our eyes, it would appeal most powerfully to your sympathies. And the worst feature of cruelty in the thing is that it falls most heavily upon the most helpless—upon women and children, upon widows and orphans. Year by year, and day by day, is the number increased of those who have kept up in vain the struggle for the bread of independence and for the roof that covers their heads. Is it strange that we should ask for them and for ourselves some relief from the tyranny that is so oppressing us? And can it be that the Government will deny us its sympathy and its aid in giving us the substance as well as the form of republican government? Mr. President, we come in no factions or partisan spirit. We come in the interest of peace, of good order, and of honest government. It matters little to us whether the Administration be Republican or Democratic, so far as the welfare of the people is concerned. We ask it as American citizens; for we know that the moral as well as the political influence of the National Government is commanding. The people of South Carolina did once aim at an independent existence and make a terrible struggle for it. But that dream and that struggle are over—they are of the past. Our people have no other national government than that of the Union, no other flag than these United States, and no other flag than that bright flag of stars that floats over this broad land. And they are true men and faithful; and if we know the people, they would defend this flag which is theirs, that flag which is theirs, from foreign aggression with the same unflinching valor which, in the remote past and in the recent past, they have displayed on so many well-fought fields of battle.

The President, who heard Mr. Porter with fixed attention, replied with characteristic brevity, and with something more

GENTLEMEN:—After listening to your remarks, I do not see that there is anything that can be done, either by the Executive or by the legislative branch of the National Government, to better the condition of things which you have described. The State of South Carolina has a complete sovereign existence, and must make its own laws. If its citizens are suffering from those laws it is a matter very much to be deplored. Where the fault lies may be a question worth looking into. Whether it is due to yourselves—whether it is not owing to the extreme views which you have held—which your action has not consolidated the non-tax-paying portion of the community against you, are questions which I leave to your own consideration. Allow me to say, however, that I always feel great sympathy with any people who are badly governed and over-taxed, as is the case in Louisiana, and seems also to be the condition of South Carolina. I will say, however, that the people who do not pay the taxes have no voice in fixing the amount of them; and that the taxes so raised are expended, not by those who pay them, but by those who really feel no part of the burden of them. We doubt whether such a condition of things has ever before existed in any government which called itself a free representative government. With our knowledge of the entire American feeling on the subject of taxation and its exercise, we think it may be truly said that no free State of the North would submit to such a condition of things either theoretically or practically—for the practical results are precisely such as might have been anticipated. Those who do not pay the taxes care not how heavily they lay them on, and the more heavily they lay them on, the more heavily they lay them on the mere money they have to expend. In point of fact there is no check, no limitation, no responsibility such as exists where an accountable to a tax-paying constituency. Allow us, Mr. President, to group a few facts which will serve to give some idea of the condition in which we are placed. Our taxable values before the war were near \$500,000,000; they are now reduced to \$150,000,000 or \$160,000,000. Upon that \$500,000,000 before the war was raised, for the ordinary current expenses of government, the sum of about \$400,000; but upon the reduced values of \$160,000,000 there is now raised the annual sum of over \$2,000,000. Considering the loss and depreciation of property, the reduced ability of the people to pay, and the false and exaggerated assessments made, the proportion between the tax now raised and that raised before the war would be as fifteen or twenty to one. When the impoverished condition of the mass of the people is taken into consideration, with what a fearful weight of oppression do these burdens fall upon them. It is no wonder, then, that in one year 268,000 acres of land were forfeited to the State for non-payment of taxes, and that in the single county of Beaufort some 800 out of the 2,500 farms sold by the United States to the colored people have also been forfeited for the same cause. So, too, the funded debt of the State has been increased from about \$6,000,000 to an admitted figure of \$16,000,000, with an undefined margin of floating debt and unacknowledged bonds. To state the case in a few words, it may be said that our present rulers have already utterly destroyed the credit of the State by the excessive issue of bonds, partly legitimate and partly fraudulent, and are now en-

The Middletown Transcript.

EDWARD REYNOLDS, EDITOR.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 11, 1874.

South Carolina and the President.

On our first page, this morning, we publish an account of the interview of the South Carolina Taxpayers with President Grant, and the address delivered by Mr. Porter, the chairman of the committee, to which we referred last Saturday; and, also, the very courteous and statesmanlike answer of Gen. Grant.

We call the attention of our readers to Mr. Porter's address as portraying the condition of the people of South Carolina under the management of the Republican party. That party styles itself the party of reform and with a loud voice and trumpet flourish proclaims that its deeds are good and all its aims just. South Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas are living refutations of their arrogant claims.

Influenced by a prejudice and hatred skin to fiendishness, and by an insatiable desire to keep political power in their own hands, the Republicans leaders conferred suffrage upon a class totally unfit for it, and have thereby placed the absolute control of the governments of those unfortunate States, where such people are in a majority, in the hands of men who, being wholly without property as they are without intelligence, education and principle, gather together in the Legislative Halls and make enactments robbing the treasury and misappropriating the funds, which they seek to recuperate by a system of grinding taxation which is taking away the property of thousands of citizens who, unable to pay the enormous taxes laid upon them, are forced to see their homesteads sold beneath the tax-gatherer's hammer and themselves powerless to prevent it. The address of the Tax-payers of South Carolina shows an existing condition of affairs in that State perfectly appalling, and this the Radicals call "reform." We call attention to South Carolina because we regard her condition as a fair specimen of the "reform" which the Radicals seek to inaugurate in all the Old Slave States. Not that such a state of things would be established in Delaware, should the Republicans gain power, for the material of which that party is composed at the South, and which forms a large part of the strength here, is not sufficient to enable them to bring it about. But the disposition is the same, and, once in power, there would be no limit at which they would stop and no step which they would decline to take provided they could thereby retain control of the government.

Men, or a political party, who will deliberately, in order to gratify an inhuman malice, give over one of the States of the Union to the control of ignorance and vice, are not the men with whom to trust political power.

The time is rapidly approaching when the people of Delaware will again be called upon to make choice of rulers. With the picture of South Carolina held up before their eyes there is but little to induce them to trust their State in the hands of the so-called "reformers." The Radicals, of course, disavow all intentions of introducing such a state of "reform" here as exists at the South. So they once bitterly and solemnly protested that they had no intention of conferring suffrage upon negroes and of doing many other things which they have since done, but when the power was placed in their hands, how speedily they forgot their promises and declarations.

The State election in Connecticut last Monday was a complete Democratic triumph. Governor Ingalls was re-elected by a majority of 1897 over both the Republicans and Prohibition candidates. His plurality over the Republican candidate, H. B. Harrison, was 6,742. Both Houses of the Legislature are largely Democratic, the Senate standing 17 Democrats to 4 Republicans, and the House 143 Democrats to 96 Republicans and 2 Independents. This insures the return of a Democrat to the U. S. Senate in place of Senator Buckingham, whose term will expire on the 4th of March next.

The Municipal election in Cincinnati, O., the Democratic ticket was elected by 5,000 majority. At Glen Falls, New York, the Democratic majority was about 200. Last year the Republicans had 300 majority. At Cleveland, O., the Republican loss is estimated at 7,898 votes since 1872.

The Delaware Press.

[From the Boston Journal.]

Our article in last week's Journal we caused our party leaders to pause and think; showed the men who had in former times tried to destroy the Democracy of Delaware that, calmly, dispassionately, and with great issues at stake.

Washington Commercial says:—

"We have given it, and if you do not like it, come and get it, and tell him why we gave it."

Items of General News.

We have seen and read so much of late in regard to the discussions existing in your ranks, of the sectional jealousies, the "rings," the "two wings of the party" or by whatever other names you may choose to call your differences of opinion, that we wish our Democratic friends to avoid all similar pitfalls. We truly believe that by thinking calmly and deeply of the good of the whole State they will be ready to yield minor points of difference and to ignore strong personal or sectional prejudices.

In that article we addressed ourselves especially to Democrats, but since you of the opposition see fit to read it and to call its teachings "good advice," may we not add a word to those Republicans who can and who will think?

Dare you assert that in the whole of your party one respectable white man, a Delawarean by birth and education, could pause and think seriously whether he was so carelessly drifting, and not shrink appalled from the utter ruin before him?

Can Delaware Republicans—we do not mean those fanatics who for years warned against slavery and the South, but we refer to the men whose only fault has been that they have blindly, thoughtlessly followed such leaders, can any reputable white Delawarean think seriously what your civil Rights' bills call for, what Republican legislation means, and can he yet cling to a party inculcating such ideas? Yet if you pause and think, Republicans, you must see this, for perfect equality, social as well as political is a cardinal principle of the party to which you swear fealty.

Again we urge upon all to think and decide for themselves. Your leaders are content with those who blindly follow; we want in our ranks all who dare assert their manhood and their capacity by independently voting with that party which thought and experience teach them is safe and right, with that Democracy which is of the people, from the people, and whose mission is the good of the people.

[From the Gazette of Monday.]

NEGROES AT THE SCHOOL ELECTION.

The negroes took a very prominent part at the school election in this city on Saturday afternoon, and in every case voted for men known to be Radical in their sentiments. Now, negroes pay no school tax, and are not voters in a strictly legal sense.

Their votes are forced upon our people contrary to our State laws. Notwithstanding this, some of the more brazen faced blustered about the polls of the Fourth Ward to such an extent that many orderly and quiet white men of both parties left the polls in disgust. So long as these negroes vote the Radical ticket our neighbors of that press pretend that it is all right; but if they voted against the Radicals, the notes of the press would very soon be heard against their voting without paying tax as white men do. This discrimination in favor of the negro is one of the main features of Radical legislation, the next great feature is how best to rob the public and deplete the treasury.

[For the Middletown Transcript.]

MR. EDITOR:—Dear Sir.—It is with great regret that I am called upon to record a very unpleasant little affair that took place a few days since in this vicinity, in one of the very happy families of the elite Black and Taas. One of the newly appointed members of the executive committee for this county, appointed at the great negro equality convention held at New Castle a few weeks since, not having the fear of God before his eyes, with malice aforethought, with force and arms at Saint Georges, did kick, beat and otherwise maltreat one of the wards of the Nation under his special charge, which so incensed said ward that he over-stepped the bounds of gratitude, forgetting the great blessing being conferred by his tutor teaching him his duty, &c., preparatory to the Fall election, he became a little refractory, using the art taught him by his white instructors for self-defence against Bible Democrats, he landed a well directed "eye closer" at his tutor which caused the cry of "foul" by one of the bystanders, and the poor ward was set upon and handled very severely in the shape of two pluck one.

Shame! shame! shame!

O, Black and Tan, you should not let Such angry passions rise;

A nigger's fist was never made To break a white man's eye.

Since writing the above I have been informed that Messrs Grey and Gould have called the committees of east and west St. Georges Hundred together, when the beligerents are to appear before them, and when, I suppose, all matters touching the case will be adjusted.

[For the Transcript.]

To the Peach Growers who Ship their Peaches to Market by Railroad.

There has been called, by the President and Secretary of the Peninsular Fruit Growers' Association, a special meeting at Dover, on Tuesday, 21st inst., at 2 o'clock, P. M. There has been a decision in the U. S. Court defining the rights of our Legislature, and the responsibility of railroad companies. The peach business, for several years, has been groaning under excessive and unjust taxes imposed on it by the railroad company, therefore it is desired that a large turnout of peach growers be at this special meeting. It is also desirable that the Milford and Seaford Peach Growers' Association attend and join in with us, to agree on a line of policy to hold the Railroad Co. responsible, as common carriers, and no longer submit to their dictatorial policy of charging an enormous freight and taxes and compelling us to sign carefully drawn up documents, reviewing the railroad company from all or nearly all responsibility. Come, peach growers, and let us consult together.

The Committee, on New Routes and New Markets will be able, we hope, to make further reports on that subject. There is a prospect for a large crop of peaches, and the persons who grow them expect to get paid out of them. It is their interest to attend this meeting, especially those growing along the line of railroad. We send our congratulations to all who have done well.

Mr. F. F. Low, our Minister to China, has resigned. George F. Seward, our Consul at Shanghai, will probably be appointed to succeed him.

The Cuban War.

The South Carolina Senators and Representatives, and a delegation from the South Carolina Republican State Committee, called upon the President on Tuesday, and made a long statement in answer to the representations of the Committee of the Taxpayers' Convention. They asserted that the taxation was not as burdensome as reported, and that the taxes had been imposed for the best interests of the people and State. They also said that the Republicans represented the great majority of the people of South Carolina. After hearing their statement the President said he regarded it as a complete answer to the other side. He also said that his remarks to the former delegation had been misconstrued, and that he had not intended to make any reflections on the Governments of Louisiana and South Carolina.

In that article we addressed ourselves especially to Democrats, but since you of the opposition see fit to read it and to call its teachings "good advice," may we not add a word to those Republicans who can and who will think?

Dare you assert that in the whole of your party one respectable white man, a Delawarean by birth and education, could pause and think seriously whether he was so carelessly drifting, and not shrink appalled from the utter ruin before him?

In Dayton, Ohio, the female crusaders resumed their rounds on Tuesday. At one of the saloons they were surrounded and grossly insulted by a brutal crowd, who displayed pistols and knives. At length the Police Commissioners interfered and requested the women to retire from the street. Tuesday night the Mayor and Police Commissioners issued a proclamation requiring the policemen to keep the crusaders away from the saloons and to enforce the State laws regarding liquor sellers. Both parties in Dayton are greatly excited by these events.

While a party of about twenty persons were returning from a visit to Campbell's Church, near Carbondale, Ill., on Saturday night, they were fired upon from an ambush, and two of them—Mrs. Hansell and David Bullmer—were dangerously, if not fatally, wounded. The assassin is unknown, but the affair is supposed to be the result of an old feud between the Bullmer family and some of their neighbors. In the same feed, Bullmer's father lost his life three months ago.

CATTLE KING.—Captain King, of Texas, formerly of Vermont, has an enclosed pasture of 70,000 acres, though he owns about 150,000 acres of land in Nueces and Duval counties. The entire stock held by him at the present time is 50,000 head of cattle, 20,000 head of sheep, and 10,000 head of horses.

A New York newsboy has got himself into trouble. To encourage the sale of his stock he shouted "Extra! Great Revolution in Europe!" and a gentleman who bought the paper and found that he had been swindled, gave the boy into custody, appeared the next morning against him, and the crier of bogus extras was committed for trial.

The Legislature of Mississippi adjourned Tuesday. A bill was introduced by it providing that no more liquor licenses should be granted in any town of the State, except on recommendation of a majority of the local voters and of the women over eighteen years of age.

An examination of the affairs of the National Bank of Brighton, Mass., has revealed a "misappropriation" of its funds to the amount of \$70,000 or \$100,000 by one of its officials. It is stated that property covering the amount of the theft has been surrendered to the bank.

A meeting of persons in favor of cremation, or disposing of the dead by burning instead of burying their bodies, was held New York last Friday night. Resolutions were adopted recommending the formation of a society of Cremationists, to include all who desire to join, without distinction of creed, profession or nationality.

The Democrats of both branches of the Pennsylvania Legislature have determined to oppose the Centennial Appropriation bill and the bill for the increase of the debt of Philadelphia until the Republican majority in the House agree to pass a fair apportionment bill for the city.

At Oakland Park, San Francisco, on Thursday, Lady Mac won a five mile trot against Jerome and Omaha, in thirteen minutes. This is said to be the best time recorded in a five mile trotting race.

It is said that the new King of the Sandwich Islands is endeavoring to obtain the support of the newspapers by appointing every editor in his kingdom to a fat office.

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PAPER PLANTS, ASPARAGUS, RHUBARB, OSAGE ORANGE SETS,

and many other things for sale at moderate prices at Middlebury Nursery and Fruit Farm. A few dollars judiciously invested in fruit and ornamental trees will never be regretted. Now is the right time to plant, and it costs no more to do it now than it will when it becomes too late.

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The Cuban War.

The state of Cuba is growing daily more helpless. Financial embarrassment is added to military failure, and every one sees that the grand crash is coming. From Havana we have the news of financial failure and disturbance, and from the Central Department comes news of military disaster. So far from the insurrection losing strength the troops gathered to give the crushing blow, which has been impending for six years, but somehow never comes down, are routed whenever they leave their fortified strongholds.

So unfavorable has been the tide of war lately that the Spaniards can no longer conceal their reverses from the outside world. The Cuban forces under General Gomez have operated in the neighborhood of Puerto Principe during several months, and every effort to disperse them has ended in defeat. So far as these repulses can disguise they are; but the constant presence of a large Cuban force in the neighborhood of headquarters of the Spanish army is the best answer to pretended victories that end with the hasty retreat of the victors to the nearest place of shelter.

In spite of the recent reinforcements of the army by the enrollment of volunteers, the Spaniards are unable to dislodge the paroxysms.

General Arminia's brigade has been defeated at Guasimoclare, not far from Puerto Principe, and obliged to abandon their dead and wounded to the enemy.

Seized and taken into execution as the property of Eugenio M. Hanson, and to be sold by ROBERT L. ARMSTRONG, Sheriff of Newark, April 9th, 1874.

Two Prizes \$1,000

Five Prizes \$500

Ten Prizes \$100

One Horse \$500

The Middletown Transcript

Published every Saturday by
Edward Reynolds.

TERMS—\$2.00 a year, payable in advance.
No paper discontinued until so ordered, except at
the option of the publisher.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.—Advertisements
of 10 lines or less will be inserted twice for \$1.00,
and 25 cents for each additional insertion. Busi-
ness cards, \$10 per year. One-quarter of a col-
umn, 3 months, \$5; 6 months, \$15; one year,
\$30. Business Locals, 10 cents a line for
each insertion. Marriages and Deaths inserted
free. Obituaries charged at regular advertising
rates.

Local and State Affairs.

The Levy Court.
TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS APPROPRIATED TO REBUILD THE COURT HOUSE.

The Levy Court reassembled on Tuesday, to dispose of the unfinished business of the term. After settling some preliminaries, the report of the committee appointed to investigate the condition of the Court House, and report an amount thought necessary to remodel the same was called up, and the following report and resolution, drawn by Wm. N. Wilson, of Appoquinimink Hd., was read, and upon motion adopted by the Court:

Your committee, appointed in accordance with resolution adopted in reference to rebuilding the Court House in New Castle, respectfully report that they have carefully considered the same, and that they see the great necessity of a thorough remodeling and rebuilding of the old buildings at a probable cost of \$40,000, and as a committee we hereby endorse the plan proposed by the Architect, Mr. John McArthur, of Philadelphia, said plan to be subject to be revised by the Levy Court, or its building committee appointed by the same, for rebuilding the New Castle Court House, at New Castle, Del. And we hereby recommend the commencement of the building of said Court House at an early day.

GEO. JACKSON,
ALEXANDER DEAKYNE,
WM. N. WILSON,
SERICK F. SHALCROSS.

Resolved, That there be, and hereby is appropriated the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of rebuilding the Court House of New Castle county, at New Castle, Del., subject to the order of the building committee, Messrs. Wm. N. Wilson, Wm. R. Bright, Serick F. Shalcross, George Jackson, Alex. Deakyne, F. Janvier.

When the above appropriation was under consideration, Mr. Feibiger voted to it an amendment appropriating \$20,000 towards the construction of a bridge across the Brandywine, at Wilmington. The amendment, however, was lost, by a vote of 3 to 8 to 8—Messrs. Feibiger, Derrickson and Sharpless voting in the affirmative.

The tax rate fixed by the Court a few days ago, is 38 cents on the \$100—20 cents for County, 10 cents for State and 8 cents for poor tax. This rate is the same as last year's.

After settling the accounts of the members, the court adjourned until their next regular term.

School Elections.

More interest was manifested, in the early part of the day, in District No. 94, than has been taken in a school election for several years, or since the spirited times, when the war fever was at its height. A rumor had been in circulation for some days that an attempt would be made to vote down the school tax. This was found to be incorrect. The foundation for the rumor was "the fact that certain parties had determined to appeal to the voters of the District to refuse to sustain the purchase of the house and lot, bought at the Sheriff's Sale of T. H. Rothwell's property, by the Commissioners as not being a suitable location for a school." As, however, the property had been sold the night before to J. H. Walker, Esq., at about the price at which it was bought by the commissioners, there was nothing to quarrel about, and all passed off serenely. Dr. T. H. Gilpin was elected clerk vice W. J. H. Lingo, term expired. The term of the commissioners, Messrs. E. T. Evans and C. E. Anderson; from No. 60, Wm. Green, E. W. Lockwood, J. B. Clarkson.

In District No. 60 times were not quite so lively. E. W. Lockwood, Esq. was elected commissioner, vice Albert Pennington, term expired.

As the school house in District No. 60 is rather ancient and has "seen its best days," and No. 94 no house at all, a committee of three from each district has been appointed to confer with the Board of Trustees of the Academy with a view to obtaining the Academy building for the purpose of forming a joint school, for both districts, of several grades. The following gentlemen compose the committee:—From district No. 94, E. T. Evans, Robt. A. Cochran, C. E. Anderson; from No. 60, Wm. Green, E. W. Lockwood, J. B. Clarkson.

In the McDonough School District, (St. Georges Hd.) Jas. Janvier was elected clerk, and Isaac Woods and Z. A. Pool, commissioners. By vote, \$250 was raised for support of the school, and Miss Gertrude Pennington chosen teacher.

Mysterious Shooting.

In District 81, (Appoquinimink Hd.), David C. Rose was elected commissioner, and a tax of \$300 laid. A resolution was adopted declaring that no teacher should be employed until he or she was first examined to competency by Col. A. H. Grimeshead, of Wilmington, and furnished with his certificate that he or she was capable of teaching school.

Warwick Items.

(From our occasional correspondent.)

Homicide.—On last Saturday night two men in the neighborhood of Morris Station on the Kent Co. R. R. by the name of Ford and Cunningham, indulged in a fracas which will terminate fatally for one of the parties. Ford fired a pistol shot at Cunningham, which took effect in the breast of the latter, producing a mortal wound.

Easter.—best of all commemorative days, symbolic of good will and renewed peace, was duly celebrated by the "nig" around in Warwick. Several Darks were very ostentatious, grossly insulting white gentlemen travelling the highway, and evincing that bravado spirit which latterly manifests itself on the street corners of our busy, enterprising town.

The lower section of Cecil county is exultant over a myth called Ship Canal. Numerous parties are weighing perspective damages to such an extent that their physical proportions are diminishing by the immensity of the golden load they carry.

Poisoned.—Mr. William Green, of Sassafras Neck, lost a very valuable mare last week. She was in fine condition the evening before her death, but the morning beheld her dead and swollen in the stable stall, evidently dying without a struggle. The food in her manger was scarcely touched.

Convention.

A convocation of the clergy of the Diocese of Delaware, was held in St. Ann's Church of this town, Wednesday and Thursday last, the 8th and 9th instant. Besides the Bishop, the Rev. Messrs. Clemson and Hotchkiss, of Claymont; Frost and Littell, of Wilmington; Stone, of Newark; McKim, of Milford; Douglass, of Georgetown; Gibson, of Dover; Stewart, of Lewes, and the Rector of the Parish were present. The opening services on Wednesday morning were conducted by the Rev. Messrs. Gibson and Stewart, the Rev. Mr. Stone preaching the sermon. In the afternoon a business meeting was held at the Rectory. Notwithstanding the heavy rain that began a few hours previous to evening service, a goodly number of the members and others assembled in the Church, and after evening prayer, the subject "Conversion" was ably discussed by several of the clergy. At 9 A. M., Thursday, Convocation reassembled and the Bishop, assisted by Rev. Mr. Stone, celebrated the Holy Communion. Morning prayer was said at 10½ o'clock, and the Bishop preached from the 3d chapter, 16 verse of St. Paul's 1st Epistle to the Corinthian. After the sermon, and while the hymn was being sung, seven candidates (ladies) advanced to the Chancel Rail, and at its close received the Apostolic Rite of Confirmation. The Convocation then adjourned for another business meeting at the Rectory.

In the evening the Apostolic Commission, considered as an act of incorporation, was the subject discussed by the various speakers, after which the Convocation adjourned. The services throughout were of the most interesting and pleasing character, and had not the weather been so unfavorable, would no doubt, have been very largely attended.

The congregation of St. Ann's has been very much increased since Mr. Butler's advent among them, and the church is now in a flourishing condition.

Patrons of Husbandry.

J. M. Hamilton, National Deputy, Patrons of Husbandry, organized a Grange at Milford, April 6th, with a full list of Charter Members and the following officers:—Master, John J. Rose; Overseer, David Scott; Lecturer, W. C. Davidson; Steward, A. P. Lewis; Assistant Steward, James Scouller; Chaplain, W. R. Phillips; Treasurer, S. Todd Jenkins; Secretary, Peter P. Wykopp; Gate-keeper, Harris Paige; Ceres, Mrs. W. Phillips; Pomona, Mrs. David Scott; Flora, Mrs. Charles Barker; Lady Assistant Steward, Mrs. H. Cress, and at Bridgeville, April 7th, organized "Sunny Side Grange," No. 7, with nineteen Charter Members and the following officers:—Master, S. Robins; Overseer, J. B. Cottrell; Lecturer, M. A. Sullivan; Steward, W. H. Clarkson; Assistant Steward, Wm. Bryan; Chaplain, D. S. Myers; Treasurer, G. T. Trout; Secretary, W. J. Coats; Gate-keeper, S. P. Raughley; Ceres, Mrs. Anne Clarkson; Pomona, Mrs. M. E. Bryan; Flora, Mrs. M. A. Sullivan; Lady Assistant Steward Mrs. Kate Jacobs.

Sig. Lorenzo Blitz.

The entertainment given in the Town Hall last Saturday evening by Sig. Blitz, Jr., was pretty well attended, and on the whole, rather pleasing to the audience. Mr. Blitz, we believe, is thought to be more skillful in the performance of his tricks of necromancy than his famed father, but as we have very little fancy for amusements of this character we are a rather poor judge of his merits and demerits. Any one who may have found the same will receive a reward and the thanks of the owner by leaving it at this office.

The *Gazette* wants the New Castle County prison made self-supporting: that is, it wants the lazy scoundrels locked up therein to work in which we heartily agree with it.

E. B. Rice & Co. having their large ice-houses on Drummond's Lake filled with good ice, promise to supply our citizens with that useful article during the summer.

A lamentable affair happened at Camden, Kent Co., last Saturday. The ballots of three National schools were refuted by the judges of the school election. Waan't it awful.

The *Commercial* says a "Middletown farmer attempted to kill a colored man from his kitchen and was knocked down." Wonder if the *Commercial* knows how high a seat in the Radical Synagogue that "Middletown farmer" holds?

Wilmington had an excitement last week. A horse belonging to Col. J. W. Andrews ran away with his carriage, and jumped upon the deck of a tug-boat in the Christiansa, where he was caught.

The Wilmington Republican papers are having a lively discussion about who shall be made Governor. They had better save up a little of their fire until next fall. They'll need plenty of it then.

A. N. Shoppe advertises for a Memorandum Book lost on the streets during a visit to Middletown on Wednesday. Any one who may have found the same will receive a reward and the thanks of the owner by leaving it at this office.

The *Gazette* is extremely anxious to know whether Delaware has a Representative in Congress, or not, and asks what has become of Mr. Loftland?

Why don't the *Commercial* answer and relieve their neighbor's anxiety.

Messrs. Foard & Comegys, grain merchants of this town, shipped per sloop *Ariadna* from Odessa, on Wednesday last, 2200 bushels of corn to New Castle, and will ship per sloop *Olivia*, from same place to-day, 2000 bushels of corn to New Castle. They also shipped two sloop loads of corn from the Canal this week.

Our Public Schools.

Welcome, sweet Spring, with all thy varied charms,

With all thy freshness and thy myriad flowers;

Winter relenting, opens wide its arms;

And spring comes bounding from its sunny bower;

The earth is robed in clothing fresh and bright,

Kind nature spreads her mantle over all—

But man, to dress himself up spruce and bright,

Should get his clothes at BENNETT'S TO WEAVER HALL.

We have a splendid assortment of Beautiful Clothing for Spring wear; elegant in style, of durable material, and lower in price than you can buy elsewhere. BENNETT & CO., Town Hall, 518 Market Street, (half-way between 5th and 6th Aves.), Philadelphia.

Peach Growers' Meeting.

In another column will be found a call for a special meeting of the members of the Peach Growers' Association at Dover next Tuesday. Business of much importance to fruit growers will be discussed at that meeting, as is explained in the letter of Mr. Townsend and only Miss Vasey's scholars took part in the exercises, which consisted principally of dialogues and declamations with music interspersed. The schoolhouse was nicely trimmed with evergreens, and a neatly arranged table occupied the centre of the floor, on which were cakes, lemonade, &c., for the scholars. Two prizes were given to the scholars best in deportment, and the scholars receiving them were Jamie Letherbury and Ella Hall. Miss Pennington treated her school to refreshments in the afternoon.

Rice's Ice Cream Saloon.

E. B. Rice, Middletown's energetic confectioner, having rented the dwelling house on the corner of Broad and Main Sts., adjoining his store, has had communicating doors cut between his store and the dwelling house, and has nicely fitted up the front room of the latter for a ladies' ice cream and oyster saloon. He has now one of the largest, best arranged and neatest saloons in the county. Rice is an enterprising fellow and richly deserves the patronage of the public. Those who have once had the pleasure of eating his ice cream don't need to be told how good it is, and those who haven't tried it, had better do so.

Edward Moore.

The Spring and Fall advertisement of this reliable clothing House will be found, in double column, on our fourth page this week. The attention of our readers is most respectfully called to it, as the season for Spring clothing is at hand. If parties in want of such articles will call upon Mr. Moore he will give them the full worth of their money in good material and guaranteed satisfaction in fit.

Burning of Richardson's Factory.

Ex-Sheriff Jacob Richardson's morocco factory, in Wilmington, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday morning, together with a large quantity of material, both raw and manufactured. The origin of the fire is not known, but as fire is not used in the place where it was first discovered, suspicion of foul play is entertained. Mr. Richardson's loss is estimated at about \$15,000, his insurance \$11,500.

Middleton Nursey and Fruit Farm.

E. R. Cochran advertises a large and carefully selected stock of fruit and ornamental trees, small fruit plants, &c., at his nursey and fruit farm near Middletown. Mr. Cochran is a practical farmer and fruit grower, and thoroughly understands his business. Persons who buy of him may rest assured that the articles they buy are what he says they are.

Local and State Affairs.

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